

PEOPLE

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Human Resources reports the following personnel changes:

Key Management Assignments

*Bill Parsons* was named deputy center director.

*Joe Chang* was selected as manager, Space Operations Business Office, Space Operations Directorate.

*Paul Shack* was named manager, Systems Engineering Office, Engineering Directorate.

*Bill Roberts* was selected as chief, International Training Integration Branch, Space Flight Training Division, Mission Operations Directorate.

*Paul Bertsch* was selected as chief, Flight Design Requirements and Integration Office, Flight Design and Dynamics Division, Mission Operations Directorate.

*Karen Wyont* was selected as chief, Supply and Support Services Branch, Logistics Division, Center Operations Directorate.

*Marge Davis* was named chief, Property and Equipment Branch, Logistics Division, Center Operations Office.

Additions to the Workforce

*Lanny Plaisance* joins the Power Systems Branch, Energy Systems Division, Engineering Directorate, as an electrical power systems engineer.

Promotions

*Carlise Ishmel* was selected as senior secretary in the Office of Procurement.

*Silvia Hanagriff* was selected as a traffic management specialist in the Transportation Branch, Logistics Division, Center Operations Directorate.

*Carolyn Ochoa* was selected as an accounts receivable specialist in the Resource Control and Reimbursables Branch, Logistics Division, Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

*Dorothy Workman* was selected as senior secretary in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

*Jana Schultz* was selected as lead secretary in the Space Station Payloads Office, International Space Station Program Office.

Reassignments Between Directorates

*Lee Graham* moves from the International Space Station Program Office to the Systems Management Office.

*Debra Yockov* moves from the Mission Operations Directorate to the Systems Management Office.

*Venessa Jankowski* moves from the International Space Station Program Office to the Office of Procurement.

*Tim Bond, Joe Chambliss, Arnold Levine, Kornel Nagy, Jim Rueter,* and *John Zipay* move from the International Space Station Program Office to the Engineering Directorate.

*Michael Garske* moves from the Mission Operations Directorate to the Space Shuttle Program Office.

*Stuart McClung, Ken Poast,* and *Kevin Templin* move from the Engineering Directorate to the Space Shuttle Program Office.

*Vince Berend* and *Jeff Phillips* move from the Safety, Reliability, and Quality Assurance Office to the International Space Station Program Office.

*Greg Lestourgeon* moves from the Center Operations Directorate to the EVA Project Office.

Reassignments Between Centers

*Heather Moncrief* moves to the White Sands Test Facility.

*Randy Galloway* moves to the Kennedy Space Center.

Retirements

*Leo Monford* of the Engineering Directorate.

*O'Keefe Sullivan* of the International Space Station Program Office.

Resignations

*Yvette Garner* of the Office of Procurement.

NASA BRIEFS

NASA RENAMES NEAR SPACECRAFT

The NASA satellite conducting the first-ever close-up study of an asteroid will be renamed to honor Dr. Eugene M. Shoemaker, a legendary geologist who influenced decades of research on the role of asteroids and comets in shaping the planets. The Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR) spacecraft, currently orbiting asteroid 433 Eros more than 145 million miles from Earth, will now be known as NEAR Shoemaker.

"Gene Shoemaker was an inspirational, charismatic pioneer in the field of interplanetary science," said Dr. Carl B. Pilcher, director of Solar System Exploration at NASA Headquarters. Pilcher announced the new name during the Lunar and Planetary Science Conference held recently in Houston. "It is a fitting tribute that we place his name on the spacecraft whose mission will expand on all he taught us about asteroids, comets and the origins of our solar system."

Shoemaker died in a 1997 car accident in the Australian outback while on an annual study of asteroid impact craters. With his wife and research partner, Carolyn, Shoemaker was part of the leading comet discovery team of the past century, perhaps most famous for finding the comet (Shoemaker-Levy 9) that broke up and collided with Jupiter in 1994. Shoemaker was a key member of the 1985 working group that first studied the NEAR mission, defining its science objectives and designing a conceptual payload. Many of the group's recommended instruments were included in the actual spacecraft, which only a month into its year-long orbit of Eros is already returning fascinating data on the asteroid's surface and geology.

The first in NASA's Discovery Program of low-cost planetary missions, NEAR launched from Cape Canaveral Air Station on February 17, 1996. After a four-year journey that included flybys of Earth (January 1998) and asteroids Mathilde (June 1997) and Eros (December 1998), NEAR began orbiting Eros on February 14, 2000. The car-sized spacecraft will observe the asteroid from various distances – coming within several miles of the surface – before the mission ends in February 2001.

VIEW INSIDE MARS REVEALS BURIED CHANNELS

Some of Mars' best kept secrets, long buried beneath the surface of the red planet, were recently revealed by instruments on NASA's Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft.

New observations of Mars reveal that the planet's flat northern lowlands were an early zone of high heat flow that later may have been the site of rapid water accumulation, according to a view of the Martian interior generated using data from Mars Global Surveyor. Elevation and gravity measurements, which have been used to probe beneath the surface of Mars, indicate a period of rapid cooling early in Martian history, and evidence for large, buried channels that could have formed from the flow of enormous volumes of water.

This global view of the Martian interior was generated from gravity measurements with the Radio Science experiment and elevation measurements from the Mars Orbiter Laser Altimeter instruments.

DATES

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April 11

**Aero Club meets:** The Bay Area Aero Club will meet at 7 p.m. at the Houston Gulf Airport clubhouse at 2750 FM 1266. For details contact Larry Hendrickson at x32050.

April 12

**Astronomy seminar:** The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club will meet at noon April 12, 19 and 26 in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For details contact Al Jackson at x35037.

**IAAP meets:** The Clear Lake/NASA Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals will meet at 5:30 p.m. at Bay Oaks Country Club. Cost is \$16. For reservations contact Tami Barbour at (281) 488-0055, x238.

**Spaceteam Toastmasters meet:** The Spaceteam Toastmasters will meet at 11:30 a.m. April 12, 19 and 26 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For details contact Patricia Blackwell at (281) 280-6863.

April 13

**Airplane club meets:** The Radio Control Airplane Club will meet at 7 p.m. at the Clear Lake Park building. For more information contact Bill Langdoc at x35970.

**★Communicators Meet:** The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters International club, will meet April 13, 20 and 27 at Wyle Laboratories, 1100 Hercules, Suite 305. For details contact Allen Prescott at (281) 282-3281 or Richard Lehman at (281) 280-6557.

**MAES meets:** The Society of Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists will meet at 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 16, Rm. 111. For more information contact George Salazar at x30162.

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**Toastmasters** can help you lose the fear of public speaking and learn skills that will help you be a more successful communicator. You'll be a better listener and will easily lead teams and conduct meetings. Shown here, left to right, are Richard Lehman, Vi Truong, Lisa Brown, and Gwen Gilliam, officers of the Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters International club, at a recent meeting. For more information contact Lehman at (281) 280-6557.

**STA Lecture:** The Society for Software Quality presents *How the Shuttle Training Aircraft Helps the Astronauts*. Alyson Hickey, flight simulation engineer, will present an overview of the Shuttle Training Aircraft and its software system at noon in the United Space Alliance auditorium, 1150 Gemini Blvd. The brown bag luncheon is free to members, \$5 to nonmembers. For reservations contact Renne Peterson at 281-282-4392 by Tuesday, April 11.